

church, though, alas ! a large number of both heathen and christians have died during our absence, among whom were seven of our teachers.

The 300 bound copies of Matthew and Mark have long since passed into the hands of those who read, or are learning, and this summer (your winter) I hope to get Luke and John printed in Sydney. My teachers and the wives of some of them gave me £10 sterling to remit as their first gift, a thank offering to the British and Foreign Bible Society." Twelve casks of arrow-root, containing over 2000 lbs have been shipped to Halifax, as their contribution to the Funds.

A letter received a short time since, states that on January 27th of this year, the communion was held at Traitors Head, the Station on the East side of the Island at which 712 were present, of whom 168 were communicants, on that side of the Island the mission family had spent three months, returning to Dillon's Bay early in February. Mrs. Robertson had contracted a fever, partly from fatigue in crossing the Island, with which for a time she was brought very low, but she has recovered, and by the latest accounts the mission family were all well.

THE PROPOSED MISSION TO SANTO.

Santo is the largest and most northerly island of the New Hebrides group, as Aneiteum is the most Southerly. Though no definite appointment has been made, it has been named as the probable field of Mr. Annand's future labors. As already stated your Committee in consenting to the transference of the whole work on Aneiteum to the Free Church of Scotland, expressed strongly their conviction of the necessity of another missionary to co-operate in establishing a mission at Santo, but that Church does not see its way to make such an appointment. Dr. Gunn will probably remain at Futuna, and, whether there will be a new missionary from the Victorian church who will be appointed to Santo is a matter of doubt. Last winter Mr. Annand inquired of your committee if they could give him any encouragement to hope that they would send out another man with him to that field, but they felt that they could not, in the present state of the Fund, incur additional liabilities. More recently they received a request from the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, asking them

to appoint a man, and guaranteeing his support until such time as the Committee might be in a position to assume it. In reply, your Committee again decided, "in view of the increasing debt upon the Fund and the probability of a speedy amalgamation of the Foreign Mission Funds of the Eastern and Western sections of the Church, to defer further consideration of this subject until after the meeting of the General Assembly."

THE TRINIDAD MISSION.

Reviewing their whole field for 1885 the Mission Council say :—"This year will long be remembered as one of great anxiety and trial to every interest in Trinidad. As citizens and as missionaries we have sympathized deeply with those upon whom the trials have fallen, and we close the year sincerely trusting that improved markets and favorable seasons may mark the coming year. Some of our subscribers have not been able to continue the amount of their former contributions, and there is also a decrease in the contributions of the native church. The attendance at school has somewhat increased. There have been admitted to the Christian church by baptism during the year 71 adults and 62 children, in all 133, while 18 couples have been united in Christian marriage. There have been in operation 39 schools, at which 1965 pupils were enrolled, with an average daily attendance of 1369.

ORDINANCE FOR THE INCORPORATION OF TRUSTEES.

The mission council having for some time felt the need of some simpler and better method of holding the property of the church in perpetuity, with little expense or inconvenience, appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. Grant and Morton, who with legal advice, prepared a draft of an ordinance for the incorporation of trustees. This draft was cordially approved by the Presbytery of Trinidad, and ordered to be referred to the Foreign Mission Committees of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, of the U. P. Church of Scotland, and the Colonial committee of the Free Church of Scotland for their consideration. Your committee expressed approval of the proposed ordinance.